

In the Specification

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 9 and replace it with the following:

--Surprisingly, it has been found that cultured human trabecular meshwork cell lines derived from glaucomatous donors express mRNA for both an alternate splice form of the human glucocorticoid receptor (GR β) (SEQ ID NO:1), as well as the normal glucocorticoid receptor (GR α) (SEQ ID NO:3), whereas normal TM cell lines only express mRNA for GR α . It is believed that the elevated intraocular pressure associated with primary open-angle glaucoma may be due to the aberrant expression of GR β (SEQ ID NO:2) in the trabecular meshwork. Therefore, determining that an individual abnormally expresses GR β in their trabecular meshwork or other tissues can lead to a diagnosis of glaucoma. Also, this discovery can be used to determine whether agents have therapeutic value in treating glaucoma by determining whether they interact with GR β (SEQ ID NO:1) or alter the expression of GR β (SEQ ID NO:2). This can be done using ligand binding assays or GR β functional assays.--

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3 and 4.

1. (twice amended) A method for diagnosing glaucoma in a person, said method comprising the steps:

- (a) obtaining a biological sample from said person; and
- (b) analyzing said sample for expression of SEQ ID NO:2;